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**Special Town Meeting  
June 15, 22, 2005**

The meeting was televised by Amherst Community Television and shown on the Government Channel.

The Special Town Meeting was called to order by the Moderator, Harrison Gregg at 7:33 p.m. There were 249 town meeting members. 125 checked in and a quorum was declared. The call and return of the warrant were read by Town Clerk, Anna M. Maciaszek. A new town meeting member was sworn to the faithful performance of her duty. James Burgess Oldham, H. Oldham Brooks, Nonny Burack, Deanne Riddle, Nancy Gordon and Dorothy Merriam were sworn as tellers. The meeting took action on Article 1.

ARTICLE 1. Petition – Plum Brook Rescission (Spiegelman)

**DEFEATED Yes 98, No 103** [I move that town meeting rescind the action taken under motion E of Article 8 of the October 28, 2002 special town meeting to appropriate \$500,000 for athletic fields at Plum Brook Recreation Area and to authorize the borrowing of \$500,000 for that purpose.]

Action taken 6/15/2005.

10:05 p.m., June 15, 2005 – The meeting voted to adjourn to Wednesday, June 22, 2005 at 7:35 p.m. in the auditorium of the Amherst Regional Middle School. 210 town meeting members were checked in.

The Wednesday, June 22, 2005, session, adjourned from June 15, 2005, was called to order by the Moderator at 8:10 p.m. 126 Town Meeting Members checked-in and a quorum was declared. Articles 2-4 were considered. The Moderator, Harrison Gregg, recused himself for Articles 2 and 3, as he lives on Rolling Ridge Road. Town Meeting elected Jim Pistrang as Temporary Moderator for Articles 2 and 3. Jim Pistrang was sworn-in as Temporary Moderator. Town Meeting member Denise Barberet put forward a motion to reconsider Article 1 – Plum Brook Rescission. The motion for reconsideration was defeated by a vote of Yes 67, No 112. Hilda Greenbaum and Diana Stein were sworn as tellers.

ARTICLE 2. Petition – Land Acquisition – Hobart Lane/Rolling Ridge Road (Minear)

**VOTED Yes 111, No 83** that Town Meeting ask the Select Board to appoint an ad hoc committee; said committee to consider uses of certain tracts or parcels of land comprising 14.89 acres, more or less, and located in North Amherst between the current eastern end of Hobart Lane and the current western end of Rolling Ridge Road, bounded on the south by University land and on the north by the former Barkowski farm (parcels 5C-140, 5C-141, 5C-142, 5C-146, and 5C-147); said committee to include, but not be limited to, members representing municipal interests such as schools, housing, recreation, and conservation and residents at large; and said committee to report at its earliest convenience and not later than Fall 2005 Town Meeting.

Action taken on 6/22/2005.

ARTICLE 3. Land Acquisition - Hobart Lane/Rolling Ridge Road (Select Board)

**DEFEATED as amended (2/3rds majority not obtained)** [I move that the town appropriate \$10,000 for an appraisal or appraisals of parcels 5C-140, 5C-141, 5C-142, 5C-146, 5C-147, 5C-69, 5C-70, 5C-123, and 5C-124 and to meet such appropriation transfer \$10,000 from the Stabilization Fund.]

Action taken on 6/22/2005.

ARTICLE 4. Amend Amherst Town Government Act – Poll Hour (Select Board)

**VOTED unanimously** that the Town will authorize and direct the Select Board to petition the General Court for a special act to amend sections 1.3 and 2.42 of the Amherst Town Government Act, to provide uniform voting hours at all town elections by adding the language in boldface and deleting the language in strikethrough as follows:

1.3 Conduct of Elections. Meeting of the registered voters of the several precincts for elections, for primaries, and for voting upon any question to be submitted to all registered voters of the town, shall be held on the same day ~~and at the same hour~~ and at the same places within the town as the select board shall in the warrant for such election direct, **and the polls shall open not later than 7 o'clock in the morning and shall close not earlier than 8 o'clock in the evening.**

2.4 Referendum. ... 2.42 Election Procedure. ...The polls shall ~~be open during hours to be determined by the select board but they shall be open~~ no later than ~~noon~~ **7 o'clock in the morning** and shall ~~be closed~~ not earlier than 8 o'clock in the evening...

and to determine whether the General Court shall have the right to reasonably vary the form and substance of the proposed special act within the scope of its public objectives and, if so, whether to require the approval of the Select Board in advance of any change.  
Action taken on 6/22/2005.

The business of the warrant having been completed, the meeting voted to dissolve at 10:40 p.m. on June 22, 2005. 201 town meeting members were checked in.